Spinoza park (some impressions)

The Spinoza park is situated in Rotterdam-south. The park is a rather small park (70 hectare) enclosed by busy roads (Guide Gezelleweg, Pascalweg, Catullusweg and the Spinozaweg). The park has been laid out in the sixties. The park is very open and easily accessible. It can be entered 24 hours a day and 7 days per week. The design of the park is quite modern and sleek. The Spinoza park encloses some schools, a small gymnasium some playgrounds and water courts. The gymnasium will be removed coming years. There are a few trees and the borders did not contain any flower during the observation. In the recent past it was concluded that the park did not attract many visitors. This was, together with the retarded maintenance the reason to start a re-construction. This re-construction will be finalised in November 2013. During the observations, the measurements and the survey with the questionnaire, the park was almost ready (except the flowers) and the removal of the gymnasium. That is why the municipality of Rotterdam, together with the districts' administration decided to regenerate this park. At this moment (November 2013) this park is still under (re-)construction.



Figure 1: Spinoza park Rotterdam

Spinoza Park (10:45-11:50 hr), date 29 August 2013)	
General description	
Cleanness	The Spinoza park is quite clean. The pond in the
	western part of the park is a bit polluted with
	duck weed and waste. There are sufficient bins
	to store the litter. As mentioned afore, the park
	is under re-construction which means that
	borders and some lots are not filled with plants
	or flowers. The lanes and the bridges in the park
	are clean as well.
Accessibility	The Spinoza park is excellent accessible from
	all sides. There are sufficient entries to the park
	and there is no fence around the park.
Activities	The park is used for walking, relaxing, skating,
	dog walking, sport, passing by,
Natural sounds	In the Spinoza Park natural noise is hardly
	observed. The sound of the wind that rustle the
	leafs of trees and the sound of waterfowls
	(mainly scoots) could be observed. During the
	observations it was observed that virtually no
	natural sounds could be heard.
Human induced sounds	Cars, buses, trams and lorries on the
	surrounding roads are audible in the whole park.
	During the observations some construction
	noise was audible from works nearby the park.
	During the school season the noise from pupils
	will be heard as well. This was noticed during
	an observation in June 2013. When using the
	so-called half-pipe by skaters, the noise of this
	will be perceived as well.
Safety	Due to the openness of the park the area can be
	considered as relatively safe.
Historic elements	No historic elements are found in the park.
Diversity	Currently the diversity is rather poor . However,
	in the future more trees and shrubs will be
	planted and will strengthen the diversity.
Openness	The Spinoza park is extremely open and does
	not offer opportunities to hide or shelter from
	the wind or rain.
Facilities	Some seats, play grounds, sports equipment,
	library, skating, dog-walking (limited),

Some more pictures of the park:



figure 2: The park is surrounded by roads



figure 3: some elements in the park (benches covered by a canopy)

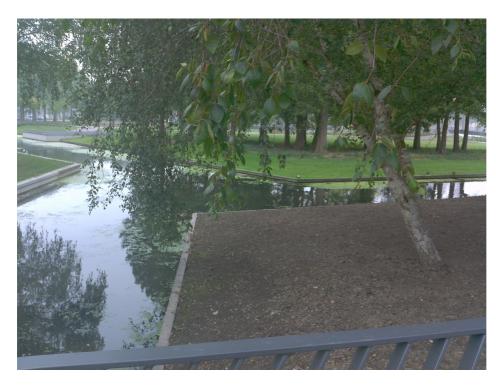


figure 4: new water areas are constructed in the park.